

  
**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant:** Nishioka et al.

**Serial No.:** 09/788,047

**Filing Date:** February 16, 2001

**Title:** ACETIC ANHYDRIDE, METHOD OF  
PURIFYING CRUDE ACETIC  
ANHYDRIDE AND METHOD OF  
PRODUCING  
POLYOXYTETRAMETHYLENE  
GLYCOL USING ACETIC ANHYDRIDE


**Group Art Unit:** 1711

**Examiner:** Rabon A. Sergent

**Docket No.:** 60586-300501

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Brea K. Taken

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

This communication under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 is being filed in response to the Office Action dated August 12, 2003 made final. Claims 1, 5, 6 and 8-10 are pending in the application. Claims 5 and 8-10 are allowed. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶1 for lack of enablement and under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kobayashi et al. Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶1 as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention; and because the specification does not reasonably provide enablement for method of purifying acetic anhydride containing ketenes. Claim 6 was also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶2 as being indefinite.